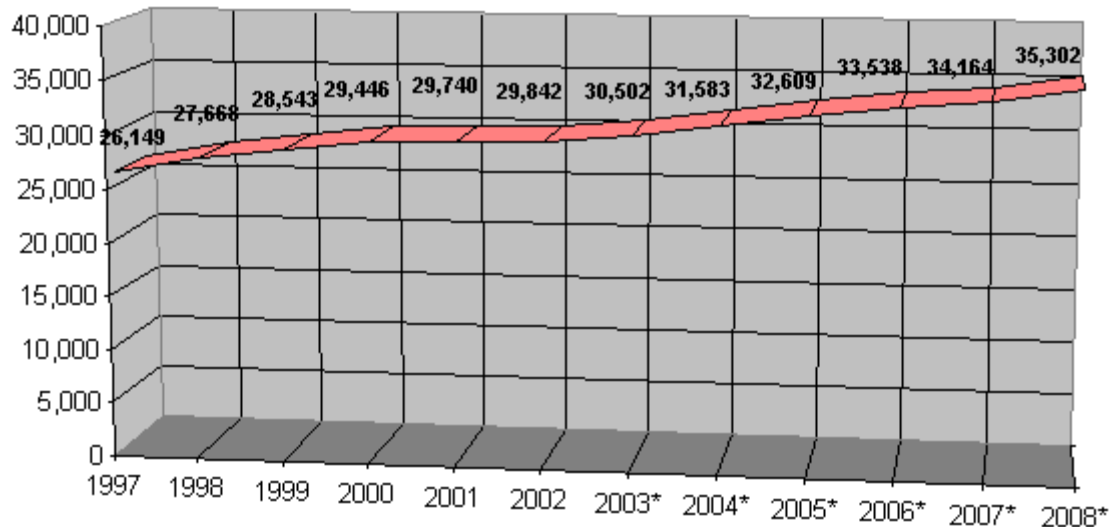


Reflective of El Paso's status as a regional economic hub, business support service companies are thriving. Key examples include engineering, software, accounting, consulting, marketing, language training, and translation firms. Total employment in these sub-sectors climbed to greater than 17,100 in 2001. Much of the demand for these services relates to international commerce and industry. Among the top exports marketed to Mexico from El Paso are numerous types of legal services. Environmental consulting firms have expanded rapidly in recent years, with client bases extending throughout the entire Western Hemisphere. Personnel agencies, riding the globalization wave, now conduct recruitment efforts for firms located on both sides of the border.

El Paso MSA Professional Services* Employment Growth and Projections 1997 - 2008



Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project, 2003